

Von Kluk's Forces, Driven Back, in Perilous Position; Germans Renew Verdun Attack; Lull in Aisne Battle

Germans Bombard Verdun; Attack Aisne Strongholds; 120,000 March On Grodno

Repulse Assault by French on Donon, Says Official Berlin Report—Order Rheims Cathedral Saved and Are Sorry that City Had to Be Bombarded—Russians, Defeated by Hindenberg, Fall Back to Grodno, an Important Railway Town in Poland.

OVERSUBSCRIBE WAR LOAN BY \$65,000,000; ROUMANIA AND NORWAY REMAIN NEUTRAL

By FREDERICK WERNER.
Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
Berlin (via Amsterdam), Sept. 21.—It was announced officially this afternoon that the German right wing and center had been greatly re-enforced in France, and that Verdun, the French fortress, was being attacked from two sides.

The following official statement covers the general situation in France:

"Success is meeting our offensive attacks against the allied British and French forces. We are making progress at several points. Heavy rains for a few days compelled the German troops to withhold their attacks, but we are now moving forward, with the enemy making an energetic defense.

"The re-enforcements sent to the front have given a good account of themselves, and have strengthened our lines by replacing the soldiers who were almost exhausted by the terrific strain under which they have been fighting for many days.

"Our artillery has again demonstrated its superiority."

Berlin, Sept. 21.—(By wireless via Sayville, L. I.)—The German armies in France have assumed the offensive against the strongly entrenched enemy," says an official announcement issued at headquarters today.

Over-subscribe War Loan.
Subscriptions to the war loan have reached 1,200,000 marks (\$150,000,000). It is announced. Subscriptions to the imperial bonds amount to 2,940,000,000 marks (\$73,500,000,000), and all returns are not yet in. The issue has been over-subscribed by at least 20,000,000 marks (\$50,000,000). In announcing this fact the newspapers say:

"We are proud that this brilliant success has been gained without foreign subscriptions or sending subscription lists to many of the well-to-do Germans now in the field. On account of the unexpected success final terms of payment have been postponed until December."

Official announcement was made today that Sven Hedin, the Swedish explorer, is a guest of the Emperor at his headquarters and will be allowed to visit the eastern and western fronts to give a non-partisan account of the situation.

Stenkluecks Not in Prison.
The following announcements were also made:

"Vienna denies the report that Henryk Stenklueck, the author, is a prisoner of war. He is enroute to the Tyrol and is preparing to write a book of his war experiences."

"The Crown council at Bucharest on Saturday decided to continue the strictest neutrality."

The Nove Vremya (leading paper of Petrograd) reports that those who demolished the German embassy at St. Petersburg, were arrested, but were released because the destruction was prompted by 'noble, patriotic feelings'."

"Fridtjof Nansen at Christiania emphasized, amid a roar of applause, that Norway must arrange the closest military union with Sweden to safeguard their common independence."

Three German army corps (120,000 men) are marching on the Russian stronghold of Grodno.

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NAPOLÉON DETHRONED, JOSEPHINE DIES.

Wonderfully Pathetic Chapter of James Morgan's Remarkable Description of the Fall of Napoleon and His Last Words to the Old Guard.

MEN HE HAD MADE DESERT HIM LIKE RATS.

The Little Corporal Realized Too Late that Former So-called Friends Were Nothing but Fawning Sycophants. Read Next Sunday's Story of the Greatest Fall in History in

THE HERALD.

RUSSIA DEFEATS DANKL'S FORCES

Number of Invaders Is Too Great—Sickness Breaks Out Among Austrian Soldiers.

VIENNA FEELS DEPRESSED

Insolvent Concerns Not Allowed to Go Into Bankruptcy During War. Government Sends Money.

By STEVEN BURNETT.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
Vienna, (via Berlin and Amsterdam) Sept. 21.—Gloom was caused here today by the official admission that the army of Gen. Dankl has been compelled to take the defensive against the Russians in Galicia.

This was the first official admission that the Austrian army have suffered any reverses in the fighting against Russia.

Russians Prove Too Many.

At the same time Field Marshal von Hoffendorf, chief of the Austrian general staff, made public a report from Gen. Dankl, praising the bravery of his troops, but explaining that the Russians had been encountered in overwhelming numbers.

The newspapers are supporting patriotically the government and every day appeals are published for the public to have confidence.

Dysentery has made its appearance among the troops and fears are felt that this disease may spread to the civil population. The health department of the government is taking precautions to protect the public. The newspapers are urging more doctors and nurses to volunteer their services to the government.

Refugees are arriving here in great numbers daily and the task of providing food and shelter for them is a formidable one. Hundreds of men and women are sleeping in the parks or in public buildings. Food depots have been established for the penniless fugitives.

Women Flock to Capital.

There are thousands of helpless women here—members of the families of peasants who streamed into Vienna when their husbands, fathers and brothers returned to the colors.

An emergency hospital is being erected at a cost of \$200,000 by the municipality. This will be used for the treatment of infectious diseases.

Densities of buildings have been converted into hospitals for the care of wounded soldiers who are being brought here from both the eastern and southern theaters of war.

There is a feeling of depression in some quarters, which the government is doing its best to lighten. This has been accentuated by the financial and industrial paralysis.

The government has been compelled to resort to vigorous measures to prevent a disastrous panic.

Insolvent concerns are being supervised by a commission appointed by the government. This step has been taken by the government to prevent wholesale bankruptcy.

War Prevents Bankruptcy.

The courts are appointing trust experts to take charge of insolvent concerns and every other possible step is being taken by the government to prevent the situation which is already serious from growing out of hand.

During the course of the war no bankruptcy proceedings may be started in the courts. The government also has issued a decree, taking the form of a moratorium, by which no executions may be levied.

In some instances the government has even advanced money to manufacturing enterprises to keep them running. This is particularly true of the textile industry.

It is expected that the sugar industry will absorb about \$40,000,000 of the \$100,000,000 war loan which the government has authorized.

The Austro-Hungarian bank will have charge of the special state war loan banks, which the government is establishing in Austria-Hungary and Bosnia.

Roosevelt Drops Colorado Situation from Campaign

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 21.—Col. Theodore Roosevelt and the other leaders of the Progressive party have decided to drop the Colorado mine situation in their campaign this fall. The colonel made no reference to the labor troubles in that State when he addressed several thousand persons in Hutchinson and Kansas City today. The colonel spoke at Kansas City, Kans., tonight.

STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS.

New York, Sept. 21.—Arrived today: St. Paul, from Liverpool; Cameronia, from Glasgow; Nieuw Amsterdam, from Rotterdam; Minnewaska, from London. Sailed—Patric, for Marseilles.

KING OF THE BELGIANS SLAYS CHAUFFEUR, WHO TRIED TO DELIVER HIM TO GERMANS

Paris, Sept. 21.—The Progress du Nord today relates a remarkable story of the King of the Belgians shooting his chauffeur when the latter traitorously attempted to drive him into the German lines.

The King was with his troops south of Antwerp. He ordered his chauffeur to drive ahead, and then, after awhile, the King noticed that the driver had changed his direction.

His majesty warned him and when the chauffeur took no notice ordered him to halt.

This having no effect, the King, convinced of the chauffeur's treachery, drew his revolver and shot him dead. He himself stopped the car and drove back to the Belgians' lines.

In the man's clothing papers were found showing he had received a German offer of \$250,000 for the King's capture.

Troops Die to Music In Fighting Inferno About Aisne Heights

Kaiser's Forces, Protected by Forest of Aigle and River Oise, Gradually Fall Back Before Onslaught of Allies in Titanic Struggle for Fate of Empires—Attack and Counter-attack Continue Four Days Before Germans Weaken—Scene Is Terrible, Yet Wonderful.

By HERBERT TEMPLE.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

London, Sept. 21.—German troops are dying to the music of their regimental bands in the vale of death along the Aisne by day and by night. Their losses are colossal, says an English correspondent, who sends his story from La Ferte-Milon, south of Soissons.

Describing a counter attack made by the Germans, he says:

"They came on singing, with their drums beating behind them. Even at night they had their hand to play them to attack."

"We met them in the holes they had dug themselves, and, as a French soldier who told the story said: 'You know, in a fight like that we had them at a disadvantage; for our bayonets are longer than theirs, though all these straps about our chests and shoulders get in our way and hinder our movements. The Germans are better off in that respect, and so are our soldiers, as they can use their arms freely. The Germans would break for a while and go back, but as soon as we sent them back another lot would come on, and so it went, time after time.'"

The wheels of vast army transport trains and ammunition wagons. There comes to me the sound of singing by the infantry, the jingling of the cavalry's equipment. The road leads to the great river, with its broken bridges, where the fate of Europe is being hammered out in blood and iron.

"What sights this road has discovered in these last few days, more especially on Thursday and Friday of last week, when the German host was flying northward to its scanty way on the heights above Aisne, and on Saturday when the allied army drew close on its heels."

"I have seen on this road sights that convince me that the retreat was not only swift, but precipitate to a point of actual panic. It was Aisne or destruction. It is necessary to realize that just as the allied army, on its way from Mons to Paris, was in danger of the German flanking movement which threatened to overwhelm it, so was Gen. von Kluk's right flank, in its retreat from Paris to Aisne, in extreme danger. To avoid annihilation he fled a position of tremendous strength toward the west. It was absolutely essential to his safety to gain the position of Aisne."

Heated Safety Across Aisne.

"One must not lose sight of the supreme fact that just as the junction of the Ourcq and Marne at Meaux made that town the key of encounter last week, so the junction of the Oise and the Aisne at Compiègne has indorsed the latter with cardinal importance. Once across the Aisne, the German host would be in a position to strike at Paris."

Hammering Out Europe's Fate.

"I walked through the ruined streets of Senlis, and through Crepy-en-Valois, with its rows of newly dug, shallow graves. The long, winding Villers-Cotterets road, even as I write, grinds under the wheels of the German host."

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Praise Given Aviators For Bravery at Front

Paris, Sept. 21.—Sir John French's reports give credit to the Royal Flying Corps for its services and French officers arriving here do the same for their aerial scouts.

Julius Vedrines is the bright star of the French air forces. He has wrecked two German aeroplanes. His second feat was accomplished at a height of 6,000 feet. Both occupants of the machine that he sent crashing to the ground were killed.

Belgian Villages Set on Fire by German Troops

London, Sept. 21.—A central news agency dispatch from Antwerp says German troops continue to destroy Belgian villages. The village of Tremelo, near Heyst-Op-Den-Berg was set on fire by a detachment of German cyclists. More than 200 buildings were ablaze at one time and the residents fled in terror. Potselaer was partially destroyed.

School Books, 2d Hand and New, Lowdermilk & Co. 1428 F St.—Adv.

German Right Thrown Back Seven Miles in Two Days; Allies Strike Hard at Flank

CATHEDRAL IS STILL STANDING

Badly Damaged, but Rheims Hopes It Will Escape Utter Ruin.

SHELLS WRECK PALACE

City Practically Empty, Though Few People Hide in Cellars During Bombardment.

By C. F. BENTLEY.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
Paris, Sept. 21.—Having just returned from Rheims after thirty hours of difficult travel, I am able to state that on Sunday at 2 o'clock the cathedral was still standing, badly but not irreparably damaged. At that hour German shells were still raining on the town and then striking the magnificent Gothic edifice.

As I last saw it the cathedral stood majestic and grim, though dense volumes of smoke belched from the shattered buildings nearby.

Fire was still raging inside as I entered the most richly adorned church interior in France, and clouds of smoke billowed into the streets.

Happily it was produced principally by straw bedding on which German wounded had been lying a few hours previously. All the oak benches, choir stalls, priceless carving of altars, railings, in fact all the age-old woodwork were scorched and smoldering. Luckily the historic chair in which Clovis, the first King of France was crowned in 481 A. D., had been removed to the Basilica of Saint Remy, thus escaping destruction.

So dense was the smoke that the vaulted roofs could not be seen. It was a desolate picture enough, but the city still hopes that the staunch old walls will escape final destruction.

The worst damage at the time I left Rheims was to the left door, all the sculptures of which were then a heap of stones. However, architecturally, the cathedral was still preserved.

The old archbishop's palace adjoining was totally destroyed, as well as the historic Hotel Lion d'Or, facing the cathedral, where the medieval French king made merry after church ceremonies.

The city over which shells are screaming furiously is half empty. Many houses are burning. The Hotel de Ville was not damaged, save for the fact that all the windows were broken. The remainder of the population is hiding in cellars, emerging only to obtain bread.

German Newspaper Denies Making of Peace Overtures

Berlin (via Amsterdam), Sept. 21.—The North German Gazette, commenting upon the reported statement of Count von Bernstorff, German Ambassador to the United States, that his country would not accept peace unless the territory of German territory was preserved, says that the German government has not even considered such a proposition.

The North German Gazette is looked upon as an official organ, and is occasionally used as the mouthpiece for the government. In its commentary the paper says:

"The assertions are intended to foster the impression that we have tired of war in spite of our victories in the east and west. Peace overtures may not be expected until the war, forced ruthlessly upon our people, is brought to an honorable conclusion."

U. S. REVENUE CUTTER WRECKED IN BERING SEA

Crew of Takoma May Be Dashed to Death Before Aid Can Reach Them.

Seattle, Sept. 21.—The United States revenue cutter Takoma, which has been on patrol duty in Bering Sea, is a wreck on a reef between Atka and Attu Island, Alutian Archipelago, with slight chances of any one aboard being saved should rough weather set in, despite the fact that two merchant vessels and the government's teamers, the United States revenue cutter Bear and coast survey steamer Patterson, are speeding to her assistance in response to distress signals flashed out over the Northland's wireless.

BRACKES WILL NOT WORK; FOUR DIE IN TUNNEL

Flier Runs Over Woman and Girl. Fumes Kill Two More When Train Stops.

Reading, Pa., Sept. 21.—Reading train No. 34, the Philadelphia and Pottsville flier, ran over a woman and a girl near the entrance to Phoenixville tunnel this evening. When the emergency brakes were applied they refused to work and the train could not be stopped until it was well within the tunnel. Fumes from the engine quickly accumulated and Engineer Farley, of Pottsville, and Conductor Shambough, of Philadelphia, were asphyxiated. Twenty passengers were overcome.

HEAVY STORMS AND SEA WRECK GERMAN PROPERTY

London, Sept. 21.—An Evening News dispatch from Copenhagen states that heavy storms prevail in Germany and that many houses have been flooded in Hamburg. At Moorburg the sea burst the dyke and many cattle were lost.

Many British Officers Prisoners of Germany

London, Sept. 21.—The government press bureau announced this afternoon that many British officers heretofore listed as missing had been located by letters in German hospitals or military prisons.

Hotel Woodstock, New York City, Quiet and in the heart of things.—Adv.

Lull Comes in Fighting as Battle of Aisne Enters Tenth Day. French and British Drive Forward and Occupy Heights of Lassigny and Teutons Are Reported to Be Retreating in Large Bodies—Gen. Von Kluk's Wing Is Exposed to Enveloping Movement.

BRITISH BEAR BRUNT OF GERMAN CHARGES; ARTILLERY DUEL FAST NEARING CLIMAX

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
Paris, Sept. 21.—The official statement issued at 11 o'clock tonight says:

"The fighting today has been less violent."

"We have made progress between Rheims and the Argonne."

The German right wing, under Gen. Alexander von Kluk, has been forced back seven miles in the last forty-eight hours. It has been driven back onto Noyon, where it has been forced to seek defensive strongholds to the southeast of the city and on the left bank of the Oise.

Gen. von Kluk is now exposed to the flanking movement of the allies' left, which has been progressing up the right bank of the Oise in an enveloping maneuver. The French and British have driven forward until today they occupied the heights of Lassigny, west of Noyon, have swept by Noyon itself on the north and have stretched their lines as far east as Laon.

German Are Retreating.

An officer returning from Soissons (a Paris today reported that an aerial scout just back from a reconnaissance says the Germans were retreating in large bodies.

An announcement from the war office says that obvious progress had been made by the French troops operating between Rheims and the Argonne.

The report indicated that a lull had come in the afternoon, for the fighting early in the day and during the previous night had been furious. Most terrific were the onslaughts made by the Germans. With the British troops under Field Marshal Sir John French bearing the brunt of the attacks, the invaders charged desperately with bayonets fixed and ferocious hand-to-hand combats ensued in which the Germans were hurled back, but come on again until the carnage was appalling.

French Are Confident.

The success of the flanking movement against the German right inspired the war office, always conservative, to issue the following statement:

"We are confident that the allies hold a favorable position in the great battle now progressing."

The tremendous conflict, now entering upon its tenth day, saw the titanic struggle of the big guns fast reaching a climax. Thus far the artillery duel has been a draw and the contest now has resolved itself into one of human endurance.

The bombardment of Soissons continued with undiminished and deadly effect, while into Rheims, already practically laid waste, a steady stream of German projectiles still fell, although the bombardment lacked the energy of the previous day's fusillade. The heavy guns were the only arms in action around Rheims, the infantry still remaining in the trenches.

The Germans have received re-enforcements at several points along their front, but these have been met by detachments in strength being brought up from the French reserves.

German Bombard Town.

In the center, west of the Argonne, and in Champagne the French have taken Meuniers-sur-Lux and Maasberg.

In the West the Germans are reported to be bombarding Haasdonk-Chatel. They also hold the territory in the vicinity of Thiaucourt.

The situation on the allies' right wing in Lorraine and in the Vosges remains unchanged, although the Kaiser's troops, part of the army of the German Crown Prince, have occupied Delmeil Hill, south of Chateau Salins.

The Crown Prince appears to have reached a position to the north of Montfaucon, where he has entrenched in a defensive position against the pursuing French column. Here he has been driven to stand at bay to protect the avenues of retreat which are still open to him through Luxembourg.

According to an official announcement of the French war office, the fleets of the allies now control the Atlantic, the Mediterranean and the North Sea.

NEWCASTLE AT SAN DIEGO.

San Diego, Sept. 21.—The Australian cruiser Newcastle arrived off this port today. Capt. W. M. Diggle said he had seen no sails for several days.